(*e*) The information is subjoined.

Year.	*Amount.*
	Rs.
1098	968
1099	579
1100	814
1101	453
1102	557
1103	522
	Total Rs. 3,893.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): Will the member be pleased to tell me whether scientific manuring has any effect on seventy years old trees?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a question for expert opinion which I am unable to answer.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): Has not the member consulted expert opinion?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Not the particular matter which the member now refers to, namely whether the manuring is useful to seventy years old trees?

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): It is stated in the answer that in the case of even seventy years old trees in the Vaikam cocoanut farm the manuring is applied.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is not stated there. The answer simply says that there are in the cocoanut farm even seventy years old trees. But whether manuring is applied to them is not stated.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): May I know the number of trees under six years of age?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have not got the information.

License for sale of Tobacco.

386. **MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of applications received by the Excise authorities in 1103 and 1104 for the issue of licenses for the sale of tobacco; and

(*b*) the number of applications rejected and the reasons for such rejection?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*).

Year.	*Applications received.*	*Applications rejected.*
1103	13,379	864
1104	10,420	396

Applications received in excess of the actual requirements of the localities concerned and those from ineligible persons are rejected as required in Rules 51 and 53 of the Tobacco Rules.

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MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): Will the member be pleased to tell me the standard of eligibility fixed for an applicant for tobacco license?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is contained in Rules 51 to 53 of the Tobacco Rules. Rule 53 reads as follows:—

"No license, either for wholesale or retail vend, shall be issued to any person

(*a*) who has been convicted of an offence falling under the Travancore Penal code and involving moral turpitude, or,

(*b*) who has been convicted of an offence under the Tobacco Regulation, I of 1087, or any serious offence under any other law relating to Separate Revenue, or

(*c*) who is a defaulter in respect of any abkari or opium contract or any sum due to the Government under Separate Revenue, or

(*d*) who is a public servant in the active service of the Government"

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): Does the member tell me that the applications rejected come under these categories?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No. The answer says that applications are allowed only to the extent of the need of the place.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): In the second part of the question I have asked the number of applications rejected and the reasons for the same. It has been stated that on account of want of requirements and also ineligibility the applications were rejected.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Some of them may be like that.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): With regard to requirements, does not the member think that we ascertain the requirements on the demand of the people?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It does not depend on the demand of the contractor but on the demand of the people.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): But the contractor has to pay money to the Government.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): But the department has to see whether the applicant satisfies all the requirements.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): Do not the Government lose money by rejecting the applications?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No. The people who want tobacco get all the quantity they want from the licensees.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): But every application rejected means a loss of five rupees to Government.

PRESIDENT: You are getting argumentative.

Arrack shops.

387. **MR. D. C. JOSEPH** (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total annual rental from the arrack shops at Arudai, Fairfield and Vandiperiyar for the year 1104;

(*b*) the total population benefited by these three shops; and

(*c*) the average abkari duty per head in the Peermade taluk?

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